

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

TRANSLATION
PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

To:

Date of mailing
(day/month/year)

Applicant's or agent's file reference

P042597P0

FOR FURTHER ACTION

See paragraph 2 below

International application No.

PCT/JP2006/306133

International filing date (day/month/year)

27.03.2006

Priority date (day/month/year)

13.05.2005

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

Applicant

MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☒ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/JP

Date of completion of this opinion

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

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Box No. 1 Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
☒ the international application in the language in which it was filed
☐ the translation of the international application into _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rule 12.3(a) and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
☐ a sequence listing
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
☐ on paper
☐ in electronic form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
☐ contained in the international application as filed
☐ filed together with the international application in electronic form
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement		
1. Statement			
Novelty (N)	Claims	1 - 7	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1 - 7	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1 - 7	YES
	Claims		NO
2. Citations and explanations:			
<p>Document 1: JP 2004-55523 A (Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.), 19 February 2004, Figs. 1, 3, 4, 6 & US 2003/0222593 A1, Figs. 1, 3, 4, 6 & EP 1370122 A2 & EP 1427264 A2</p> <p>Document 2: JP 2003-333861 A (Canon Inc.), 21 November 2003, Full text; all drawings & EP 1361653 A2, Full text; all drawings & US 2003/0210562 A1</p> <p>Document 3: JP 2004-95379 A (Harison Toshiba Lighting Corp.), 25 March 2004, Figs. 16 to 20 (Family: none)</p> <p>Document 4: JP 10-289791 A (Harison Denki Kabushiki Kaisha), 27 October 1998, Figs. 1 to 3, 6 (Family: none)</p> <p>Document 5: JP 7-67357 A (Masakazu USHIJIMA, Tadamasa FUJIMURA), 10 March 1995, Figs. 1 to 3 & EP 0647086 A1, Figs. 1 to 3 & US 5495405 A</p> <p style="margin-top: 20px;">The inventions of claims 1 to 7 are neither described in any of the documents cited in the ISR nor obvious to a party skilled in the art.</p>			

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Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

Claim 1 describes “a frequency near the drive frequency (fd)”, but as a result of using the word “near”, the range corresponding to “a frequency near the drive frequency (fd)” is not clear.